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I hereby certify that these papers, consisting of 14 pages total, are being facsimile transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office 703-872-9306 on the date shown below.

DATE: March 24, 2005

  
Jeffrey M. Measures  
Registration No.: 40,272

TO THE ATTENTION OF: Examiner Phirin SAM  
MAIL STOP: MAIL STOP AF  
COMPANY: United States Patent and Trademark Office  
CITY: Arlington, Virginia, U.S.A.  
FAX NUMBER: 703-872-9306  
DATE / TIME: March 24, 2005  
FROM: Jeffrey M. Measures  
DIRECT DIAL: (613) 237-5160  
OUR FAX NUMBER: (613) 787-3558

RE: United States Patent Appln No. 09/620,248  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL  
COMMUNICATION PROTECTION  
Inventor(s): DEBOER, Evert, E.; RYAN, Darryl, C.  
Our File: PAT 2606-2 US

NUMBER OF PAGES, INCLUDING THIS PAGE: 14  
CONFIRMATION TO FOLLOW: NONE

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MAR 24 2005

In re Application of: DEBOER, Evert, E.; RYAN, Darryl, C.  
Serial No.: 09/620,248  
Filed: July 20, 2000  
Title: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR OPTICAL COMMUNICATION  
PROTECTION  
Group: 2661  
Examiner: Phirin SAM  
Attorney Ref.: PAT 2606-2 US

March 24, 2005

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
220 20th Street S.  
Mail Stop AF  
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03  
Arlington VA 22202  
U.S.A.

Dear Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action dated December 27, 2004, please amend this application as follows:

**Amendments to the Claims** are reflected in the listing of claims that begins on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 13 of this paper.